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 FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT

CD NO.

STAT

COUNTRY Turkey  
 SUBJECT Economic - Chemical industry  
 HOW PUBLISHED Daily newspaper  
 WHERE PUBLISHED Istanbul  
 DATE PUBLISHED 13 Nov 1952  
 LANGUAGE Turkish

DATE OF INFORMATION 1952

DATE DIST. 6 Feb 1953

NO. OF PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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DATE ON CURRENTLY OPERATING,  
 PROJECTED CHEMICAL PLANTS IN TURKEY

The formation of a chemical industry in Turkey began with the sulfuric acid and superphosphate factories at Karabuk in 1943. For the first few years, there was a good deal of difficulty in finding a market for these products because artificial fertilizers were not well known in Turkey, and consequently, the factories were obliged to operate on half production capacity up until 1950.

The superphosphate factory at Karabuk is capable of producing 20,000 tons a year and the sulfuric acid factory, 16,000 tons. This plant must produce and sell an average of at least 40 tons of its products per day to continue operations on an economical basis. The Turkish Sugar Factories Corporation has done a great deal to introduce these products to the country, and thanks to its efforts, sugar-beet production has risen from 80,000-100,000 tons per year to 186,000 tons per year through the use of artificial fertilizers. The Agriculture Bank has followed suit and has been making extensive experimentation in the introduction of superphosphates into the cultivation of all types of cereals. As a result of these successful experiments, the consumption of superphosphates has increased rapidly; at present, the Karabuk factory is operating at full speed and cannot even meet the needs of Turkey. This year, the Turkish Agricultural Equipment Board has purchased from abroad 10,000 tons of triple-strength superphosphate (equivalent to 27,000 tons of ordinary superphosphate).

Agriculture Bank experts have recently estimated that Turkey needs 468,000 tons of superphosphate annually. The government has given much consideration to meeting the superphosphate needs of Turkish agriculture and has decided to establish factories in various agricultural areas as follows:

1. Iskenderun Factory

It will have an annual production capacity of 180,000-200,000 tons of superphosphate.

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## 2. Murgul Factory

It will have an annual production capacity of 100,000 tons of sulfuric acid (60 Beaume).

## 3. Kutahya Area

Various factories capable of an annual production of 75,000 tons of ammonium sulfate, 41,000 tons of ammonium nitrate and calcium nitrate, 6,000 tons of nitric acid, 3,000 tons of urea, and 1,000 tons [sic] of ammonium sulfate are to be built.

The following positive results have been obtained:

1. A few months ago a US firm, the Fertilizer Corporation of America, submitted a proposal to establish a factory in Iskenderun, offering to furnish part of the capital. This proposal has been examined and accepted by the government. As per agreement, the US corporation will hold 51 percent of the shares of this new 2,300,000-lira Turkish Fertilizer Factories Corporation, with the Agriculture Bank, Sumer Bank, Eti Bank, Agricultural Equipment Board, Turkish Sugar Factories Corporation, and the Machine and Chemical Industries Association holding the remaining 49 percent of the shares. According to an agreement made with the US firm, the factory will be ready for production within 16 months, in time to meet Turkey's superphosphate needs for 1954.

Phosphorite and sulfuric acid will be procured from North Africa, and raw materials of superphosphates from Murgul, Turkey. Cost figures have been studied carefully, and it is estimated that it will be possible for Turkey to produce and sell superphosphates at a cost of 70-75 lira per ton as compared with the prevailing price of 90-110 lira per ton in Istanbul for duty-free, imported superphosphates.

## 2. Murgul Sulfuric Acid Factory

The sulfur dioxide fumes from the Murgul Cooper Works, which have caused destruction of adjacent forests, will soon be utilized to produce sulfuric acid. This acid will be shipped by tankers to Iskenderun. Daily waste of sulfur at Murgul amounts to approximately 56 tons.

3. The above-mentioned nitrogenous fertilizer manufacturing plants in Kutahya will cost an estimated 50-60 million lira and will be financed 50 percent by foreign firms and 50 percent by Turkish banking establishments. Two German firms, the Badische Anilin und Soda Fabrik and the Uhde Company have shown interest and have submitted proposals to take part in this project. Hydrogen will be produced from lignite-burning generators, while ammonia will be produced from nitrogen taken from the air. Ammonium sulfate will be made from the sulfate found in the gypsum deposits in the vicinity of Eskisehir.

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